

REMARKS

The present Amendment amends claims 4, 7, 11-14, 18 and 21, cancels claims 1-3, 8-10 and 15-17 and leaves claims 5, 6, 19 and 20 unchanged. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 4-7, 11-14 and 18-21.

Amendments were made to the specification to correct minor errors grammatical and editorial in nature discovered upon review. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 16 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(a) as being anticipated by Toshinori (JP 2001-057578); and claims 3, 10 and 17 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Toshinori in view of Huang (U.S. Patent No. 6,885,241). As indicated above, claims 1-3, 8-10 and 15-17 were canceled. Therefore, these rejections are rendered moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

It should be noted that the cancellation of claims 1-3, 8-10 and 15-17 was not intended nor should it be considered as an agreement on Applicants part that the features recited in claims 1-3, 8-10 and 15-17 are taught or suggested by Toshinori or Huang. The cancellation of claims 1-3, 8-10 and 15-17 was simply intended to expedite prosecution of the present application.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication in paragraph 6 of the Office Action that claims 4-7, 11-14 and 18-21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Amendments were made to claims 4, 7, 11, 14, 18 and 21 to place them in independent form including all the limitations of the

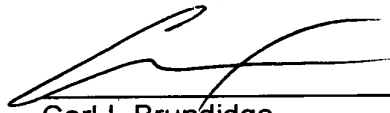
base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, claims 4-7, 11-14 and 18-21 are allowable as indicated by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 4-7, 11-14 and 18-21 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 4-7, 11-14 and 18-21 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (500.43357X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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